



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development
Office of Economic Advisors

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WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS FOR SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN COUNTIES

KENOSHA, RACINE AND WALWORTH COUNTIES

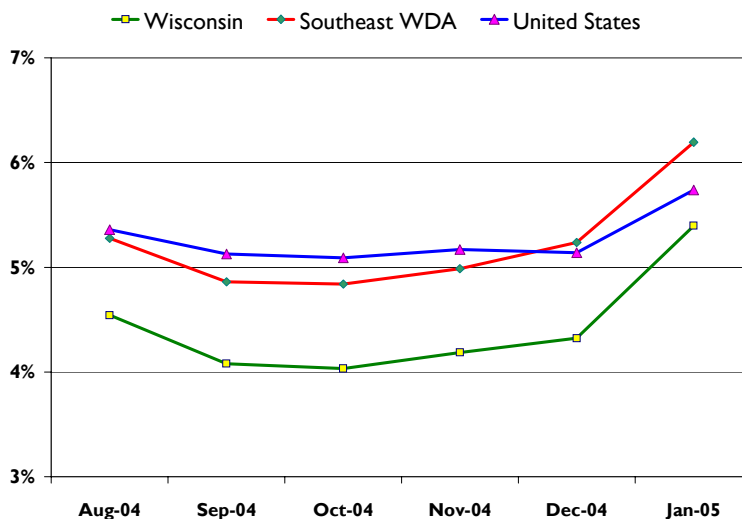
Important Note: Beginning with this issue's release of January 2005 labor market data, Kenosha County's nonfarm wage and salary estimates will be presented as a non-metropolitan county (e.g., Walworth County) because it is no longer exclusively a "Wisconsin" metropolitan area. Kenosha County is now a part of the greater Chicago metro area and its data is technically only released as inclusive of the Chicago metro. DWD has created a special tabulation so that Kenosha's nonfarm wage and salary industry employment data will still be made available to customers as it always has for its smaller, non-metropolitan counties. Most readers will probably not notice a difference in data availability. Please contact Eric Grosso at 608.266.7034 or eric.grosso@dwd.state.wi.us with your question.

Kenosha County's unemployment rate was 6.5 percent in January, which is higher than December's rate by eight-tenths of a percentage point. The county's unemployment remained unchanged despite the fact that the county shows

almost 900 more employed residents compared to January 2004.

Kenosha County's industry employment tally numbered 54,800 total nonfarm wage and salary jobs in January. This total is lower than December's total by 1,100 jobs on an overall basis. The bulk of monthly job loss was seasonal, mainly in total trade and education services employment. The county shows 400 more jobs overall on an annual basis. These gains were centered around sectors such as education and health services, leisure and hospitality, and professional and business services. Sectors showing annual job decline are manufac-

Six-Month Unemployment Rate Watch



Civilian Labor Force Estimates for Southeast Wisconsin Counties: January 2005

	Wisconsin			Kenosha County			Racine County		
	Jan-05	Dec-04	Jan-04	Jan-05	Dec-04	Jan-04	Jan-05	Dec-04	Jan-04
Labor force	3,047,551	3,063,892	3,050,416	80,012	80,846	79,085	96,379	96,718	97,478
Employed	2,883,094	2,931,449	2,871,931	74,812	76,229	73,918	90,059	91,308	90,646
Unemployed	164,457	132,443	178,485	5,200	4,617	5,167	6,320	5,410	6,832
% Unemployed	5.4%	4.3%	5.9%	6.5%	5.7%	6.5%	6.6%	5.6%	7.0%
	Walworth County			Southeast WDA			United States		
	Jan-05	Dec-04	Jan-04	Jan-05	Dec-04	Jan-04	Jan-05	Dec-04	Jan-04
Labor force	53,820	54,007	54,006	230,211	231,571	230,569	147,125,000	147,877,000	146,068,000
Employed	51,079	51,906	51,036	215,950	219,443	215,600	138,682,000	140,278,000	136,924,000
Unemployed	2,741	2,101	2,970	14,261	12,128	14,969	8,444,000	7,599,000	9,144,000
% Unemployed	5.1%	3.9%	5.5%	6.2%	5.2%	6.5%	5.7%	5.1%	6.3%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and DWD, Local Area Unemployment Statistics. Figures are not seasonally adjusted and current month's data are preliminary

Industry Employment Estimates for Southeast Wisconsin - January 2005

	Wisconsin			Kenosha County			Racine County			Walworth County			Southeast WDA		
<u>Employment in 1,000's</u>	Change since		Jan. 2004	Change since		Jan. 2004	Change since		Jan. 2004	Change since		Jan. 2004	Change since		Jan. 2004
	Jan. 2005	Dec. 2004		Jan. 2005	Dec. 2004		Jan. 2005	Dec. 2004		Jan. 2005	Dec. 2004		Jan. 2005	Dec. 2004	
	2005	2004	2004	2005	2004	2004	2005	2004	2004	2005	2004	2004	2005	2004	2004
All Industries	2,755.0	-67.4	36.9	54.8	-1.1	0.4	77.6	-1.7	-0.5	41.7	-1.0	0.5	174.1	-3.8	0.4
Construction/Natural Resources	114.9	-11.6	1.4	2.1	-0.1	0.0	3.6	-0.3	0.2	1.7	-0.4	0.0	7.4	-0.8	0.3
Manufacturing	498.8	-2.3	5.3	9.7	0.0	-0.5	18.8	0.0	-0.3	9.2	0.0	0.1	37.7	0.0	-0.7
Total Trade	429.9	-17.9	3.8	8.8	-0.3	0.2	12.5	-0.7	-0.6	5.5	-0.2	0.0	26.8	-1.2	-0.3
Retail Trade	316.1	-18.2	2.3	xx	xx	xx	9.1	-0.7	-0.7	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
Wholesale Trade	113.8	0.3	1.5	xx	xx	xx	3.4	0.0	0.1	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
Transport/Warehouse/Utilities	104.9	-4.4	1.5	1.8	0.0	0.0	2.0	-0.1	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	4.8	-0.2	0.0
Financial Activities	156.6	-0.8	-0.1	1.7	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	5.4	0.0	0.0
Education and Health Services	379.1	-4.9	10.5	8.5	-0.2	0.2	10.3	-0.1	-0.1	4.4	0.1	0.3	23.2	-0.2	0.4
Leisure and Hospitality	236.6	-3.7	6.3	6.7	0.0	0.4	6.2	-0.1	-0.1	6.3	0.1	-0.2	19.2	0.0	0.1
Info./Prof./Bus. and Other Services	422.7	-12.0	-0.1	6.8	-0.1	0.3	11.5	-0.3	0.4	4.8	-0.3	0.1	23.1	-0.7	0.8
Information	50.5	-0.1	0.3	xx	xx	xx	0.6	0.0	0.0	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
Professional and Business Services	240.8	-8.5	0.8	xx	xx	xx	6.3	-0.2	0.4	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
Other Services	131.4	-3.4	-1.2	xx	xx	xx	4.6	-0.1	0.0	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
Fed/State/Local Government	411.5	-9.8	8.3	8.8	-0.3	-0.4	10.1	-0.1	0.0	7.5	-0.2	0.2	26.4	-0.7	-0.2

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and DWD, Current Employment Statistics. Figures are rounded and may not sum to total. Current month's figures are preliminary.

turing and total government employment.

The **Racine MSA** unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) was 6.6 percent in January. This most recent rate was higher than December's by one percent point, yet was lower than the January 2004 rate by four-tenths of a percentage point. Racine's labor force showed both fewer employed and unemployed compared to January 2004.

Racine County's nonfarm wage and salary industry employment totaled 77,600 jobs in January, which was lower than its month ago and year ago levels by 1,700 jobs and 500 jobs, respectively. For Racine County and many other Wisconsin counties, January carries the lowest job totals during the calendar year.

Racine's annual job industry employment picture shows that the county experienced an overall loss of 500 jobs compared to the total from January 2004. Employment growth was recorded in wholesale trade and profes-

sional and business, but these gains were offset by annual employment declines in manufacturing and retail trade employment, hence the net loss of employment.

Walworth County's unemployment rate increased 1.2 percent point to 5.1 percent in January. January's rate is lower than what it was one year ago by four-tenths of a percentage point. Walworth County's labor force has approximately 40 more employed residents and about 230 fewer unemployed compared to January 2004. The monthly increase in Walworth's unemployment rate, though large, is completely expected between December and January, when this county usually experiences one of its highest rate increases of the calendar year.

Walworth's industry employment survey tallied a total of 41,700 jobs. This is 1,000 jobs less than December's total. Construction employment showed the largest monthly loss with a decline of 400 jobs. Professional and business ser-

vices employment declined by 300 jobs. Manufacturing employment held steady and was unchanged from its December employment level. There was 100 job gain in leisure and hospitality employment which was a bit out of the norm because the history shows that this sector declines in employment between December and January.

Annually, Walworth has gained 500 jobs on a net basis compared to January 2004. Education and health services, government, and manufacturing anchored this job growth. Leisure and hospitality shows an annual employment decrease.

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